AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

receiving output in an XML-tagged format from a router system module ~~in a format describing a type of the output~~;

querying a server selected as a function of the type of the output; and

providing a response from the server to a user,

wherein querying a server selected as a function of the type of the output comprises invoking a command line interface (CLI) module to issue a query to the server.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the output is a numeric address.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising:

querying a name server selected as a function of the type of the output;

receiving from the name server a symbolic name associated with the numeric address; and

providing the symbolic name as the response to the user.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising:

querying an owner database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receiving from the owner database an identification of an owner associated with the numeric address; and

providing the identification of the owner as the response to the user.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2, further comprising:

querying a router policy database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receiving from the router policy database an identification of one or more router policies associated with the numeric address; and

providing the identification of the one or more router policies as the response to the user.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising rendering the output in a text format different from the format describing a type of the output before querying the server.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the output comprises a listing of network peers identified by numeric addresses.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for processing an address, the method comprising:

receiving a numeric address in an XML-tagged format from a router system module ~~a self-describing format~~;

querying a name server to resolve the numeric address to a symbolic name;

providing the symbolic name from the server to a user; and

rendering the numeric address in a text format different from the XML-tagged ~~self-describing~~ format before querying the name server.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 11, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 11, wherein the numeric address identifies a network peer.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method for processing an address, the method comprising:

receiving a command in a user interface module;

invoking a system module to process the command;

receiving an XML-tagged IP address from the system module;

querying a domain name server to resolve the IP address to a symbolic name, wherein the IP address identifies a network peer; and

providing the symbolic name from the server to a user.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 16, further comprising rendering the IP address in a text format different from an XML-tagged format of the IP address before querying the domain name server.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 17, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable data storage medium comprising instructions for causing a programmable processor to:

receive output from a router system module in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~describing a type of the output~~;

query a server selected as a function of the type of the output; and

provide a response from the server to a user,

wherein querying a server selected as a function of the type of the output comprises invoking a command line interface (CLI) module to issue a query to the server.

Claim 21 (Original): The processor-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the output is a numeric address.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 21, further comprising instructions for causing the programmable processor to:

query a name server selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the name server a symbolic name associated with the numeric address; and

provide the symbolic name as the response to the user.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 20, further comprising instructions for causing the programmable processor to:

query an owner database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the owner database an identification of an owner associated with the numeric address; and

provide the identification of the owner as the response to the user.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 20, further comprising instructions for causing the programmable processor to:

query a router policy database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the router policy database an identification of one or more router policies associated with the numeric address; and

provide the identification of the one or more router policies as the response to the user.

Claim 25 (Cancelled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 20, further comprising instructions for causing the programmable processor to render the output in a text format different from the format describing a type of the output before querying the server.

Claim 27 (Original): The processor-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 28 (Original): The processor-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the output comprises a listing of network peers identified by numeric addresses.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable data storage medium comprising instructions for causing a programmable processor to:

receive a numeric address in an XML-tagged format from a router system module ~~a self-describing format~~;

query a name server to resolve the numeric address to a symbolic name;

render the numeric address in a text format different from the XML-tagged ~~self-describing~~ format before querying the name server; and

provide the symbolic name from the server to a user.

Claim 30 (Cancelled).

Claim 31 (Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 33 (Original): The processor-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the numeric address identifies a network peer.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable data storage medium comprising instructions for causing a programmable processor to:

receive a command in a user interface module;

invoke a system module to process the command;

receive an XML-tagged IP address from the system module;

query a domain name server to resolve the IP address to a symbolic name, wherein the IP address identifies a network peer; and

provide the symbolic name from the server to a user.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The processor-readable medium of claim 34, further comprising instructions for causing the programmable processor to render the IP address in a text format different from an XML-tagged format of the IP address before querying the domain name server.

Claim 36 (Original): The processor-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 37 (Cancelled).

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operation request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged a format ~~that describes a type of the output~~, wherein the output is a numeric address,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client.

Claim 39 (Cancelled).

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The routing device of claim 38, wherein the client interface is further configured to:

query a name server selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the name server a symbolic name associated with the numeric address; and

provide the symbolic name as the response to the network router client.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The routing device of claim 38, wherein the client interface is further configured to:

query an owner database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the owner database an identification of an owner associated with the numeric address; and

provide the identification of the owner as the response to the user.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The routing device of claim 38, wherein the client interface is further configured to:

query a router policy database selected as a function of the type of the output;

receive from the router policy database an identification of one or more router policies associated with the numeric address; and

provide the identification of the one or more router policies as the response to the user.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in a format that describes a type of the output,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client,

wherein the output is provided from the server to the client interface in an XML-tagged format.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~that describes a type of the output~~,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client, and

wherein the client interface is further configured to render the output in a text format different from the XML-tagged format ~~that describes a type of the output~~ before querying the server.

Claim 45 (Original): The routing device of claim 44, wherein the text format is selected from the group consisting of an ASCII format, a UTF-8 format, and a Unicode format.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operation request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~that describes a type of the output~~,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client, and

wherein the output comprises a listing of network peers identified by numeric addresses.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operation request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged a format ~~that describes a type of the output~~,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client, and

wherein the system module is a BGP protocol module, an OSPF module, or a firewall filter module.

Claim 48 (Cancelled).

Claim 49 (Cancelled).

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~that describes a type of the output~~,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client, the routing device further comprising a management server module communicatively coupled to the client interface.

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~that describes a type of the output~~,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a server selected as a function of the type of the output and to provide a response from the server to the network router client, the routing device further comprising at least one of a chassis module, a device configuration module, and a routing protocol module.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a system module to process the operational request and to provide a numeric address to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a self-describing~~ format,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a name server to resolve the numeric address to a symbolic name and to provide the symbolic name to the network router client.

Claim 53 (Original): The routing device of claim 52, wherein the system module is a BGP protocol module.

Claim 54 (Original): The routing device of claim 52, wherein the system module is an OSPF protocol module.

Claim 55 (Original): The routing device of claim 52, wherein the system module is a firewall filter module.

Claim 56 (Original): The routing device of claim 52, further comprising a management server module communicatively coupled to the client interface.

Claim 57 (Original): The routing device of claim 52, further comprising at least one of a chassis module, a device configuration module, and a routing protocol module.

Claim 58 (Original): A routing device comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client; and

a system module to process the operational request and to provide an XML-tagged IP address to the client interface,

wherein the client interface is configured to query a domain name server to resolve the IP address to a symbolic name and to provide the symbolic name to the network router client.

Claim 59 (Original): The routing device of claim 58, wherein the system module is a BGP protocol module.

Claim 60 (Original): The routing device of claim 58, wherein the system module is an OSPF protocol module.

Claim 61 (Original): The routing device of claim 58, wherein the system module is a firewall filter module.

Claim 62 (Original): The routing device of claim 58, further comprising a management server module communicatively coupled to the client interface.

Claim 63 (Original): The routing device of claim 58, further comprising at least one of a chassis module, a device configuration module, and a routing protocol module.

Claim 64 (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client;

a router system module to process the operational request and to provide output to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a~~ format ~~that describes a type of the output~~; and

a server to provide a response to the client interface;

wherein the client interface is configured to query the server and to provide the response to the network router client.

Claim 65 (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client;

a system module to process the operational request and to provide a numeric address to the client interface in an XML-tagged ~~a self-describing~~ format; and

a name server to resolve the numeric address to a symbolic name and to provide the symbolic name to the client interface,

wherein the client interface is configured to provide the response to the network router client.

Claim 66 (Original): A system comprising:

a client interface to receive an operational request from a network router client;

a system module to process the operational request and to provide an XML-tagged IP address to the client interface; and

a domain name server to resolve the IP address to a symbolic name and to provide the symbolic name to the client interface,

wherein the client interface is configured to provide the response to the network router client.